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From on board the Barfleur in the Mole of Meſſina, November 30, N. S.

THE Squadron of Britiſh Men of War with the Emperour's Tranſport Ships under their Convoy bound to Trapani, ſailed from hence the 23d Inſtant, having on board 7000 Foot and 500 Horſe, commanded by General Zumjungen; the Wind has been ſo fair ever ſince their Departure that we cannot doubt of their being arrived there before this time. As ſoon as theſe Troops were landed the Ships were to return and take in here the ſame Number of Horſe and Foot, and carry them likewiſe to Trapani, which with the Reinforcement that is ordered thither from Naples, will make up a Body of 14000 Foot and 3000 Horſe, which will be able to ſecure that advantagious Poſt, and thereby to facilitate the reducing of Palermo. It would have been almoſt impoſſible to have carried on this Undertaking altogether by Land, Proviſions being very ſcarce in the Country, and Horſes not eaſily to be procured for the drawing of our Artillery and Waggons, and carrying our Baggage; but by this Motion we have put the Spaniards under thoſe Difficulties and all the other Hardſhips attending a Winter Campaign, which muſt entirely ruin their Troops that already want Cloaths and divers other Neceſſaries. The Marqueſs de Lede no ſooner had Intelligence of the Departure of the Convoy abovementioned and the Courſe they ſteered, but he drew together his whole Army, abandoning Catania, Taormina, Mola, and ſeveral adjacent Poſts, and marched the 27th towards Palermo. In the mean time General Mercy continues with the Remainder of the Imperial Army, which is quartered part in this City and the reſt in the neighbouring Towns, ready to act in ſuch Manner as ſhall be judged proper upon the Accounts we ſhall receive of the Marqueſs de Lede's further Motions.

From on board the Barfleur in the Mole of Meſſina, Dec. 1, N. S. Sir George Byng having received Information from ſeveral Hands, that the Malteſe, contrary to the Neutrality they ought to have obſerved between the ſeveral Parties engaged in the preſent War, had fitted out Privateers, under Pretence of having Spaniſh Commiſſions, to cruize againſt the Subjects of His Britannick Majeſty and his Allies; that the Subjects of Malta frequently entered themſelves on board Spaniſh Privateers, and that even a Privateer with Malteſe Colours had aſſiſted a Spaniſh Privateer in taking a Britiſh Merchant-Man, and they had carried her as a Prize to Malta; he ſent thither Captain Saunders on board the Dreadnought to make the proper Repreſentations to the Government of that Iſland againſt ſuch Proceedings, and to demand Satisfaction and Reparation for the Injuries and Loſſes which the Britiſh Subjects had ſuſtained. Accordingly Captain Saunders being arrived there in October laſt, ſent in a Memorial to the Grand Maſter of Malta to the Effect abovementioned; the Grand Maſter and Council thereupon deputed the Commander Sanſedoni and the Chevalier Delaval to confer with him, who endeavoured to excuſe what had happened, as being done without the Knowledge or Conſent of the Government; but Captain Saunders inſiſting upon Reparation, they at laſt agreed that the Government ſhould make good the Damages done by their Subjects to thoſe of Great Britain and to other Merchants, trading in Britiſh Bottoms; and the 27th a Convention, ſettling the Method of aſcertaining the particular Claims and the fixing times of Payment, was ſigned by Captain Saunders and the ſaid Deputies, and it was ratified the next Day by the Grand Maſter and the Council. Captain Saunders is ſince returned hither and has brought a very obliging Letter to Sir George Byng from the Grand Maſter, who, as well as the Council, did in this whole Tranſaction expreſs the utmoſt Veneration for His Majeſty of Great Britain, and a very great Regard for the Admiral and the Britiſh Nation.

Naples, Dec 8, N. S. A Fleet of Tranſport Ships under Convoy of ſome Men of War ſailed from hence the 5th Inſtant with 700

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